

REMARKS

With the entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 2 and 6–15 are pending in the application, claims 3-5 having been canceled.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for her indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 5, 11 and 12, and that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent claim format including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations previously set forth in claims 4 and 5. Claim 2 has been amended to include the recitations previously set forth in claim 3. Claims 1 and 2 as amended now recite the limitations of the indicated allowable claims and all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 2 as amended are allowable. Claims 11 and 12 have been retained in their present dependent form, dependent indirectly or directly on now allowable claim 1. These claims should be allowable with the amendments to claim 1.

Applicant further submits that claims 6-10 and 13–15 should be allowable as each of these claims is directly or indirectly dependent on allowable claims 1 and 2 as amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,830,597 to Green ("Green"). Claim 4 has been canceled, and thus, claims 1, 2, 6-9 and 13-15 remain pending. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to include the recitations of allowable claims 4 and 5, and claim 3, respectively. Claims 13-15 are dependent on claims 1 or 2 as amended. Thus, claim 1, 2, 6-9 and 13-15 should be allowable as the basis for rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is no longer applicable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Green. Claim 10 is dependent upon now allowable claim 1 as amended, and should also be allowable. The rejection should be moot as to claim 10.

CONCLUSION

In summary, applicant respectfully submits that present application is condition for allowance. Reconsideration is requested and a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited. Should Examiner Young feel that any other point requires consideration, deem that further amendments should be made to improve the form of the claims, or that any other matters require discussion, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teresa J. Welch', written in a cursive style.

Teresa J. Welch
Reg. No. 33,049

File No. 065435-9115-US00
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
One South Pinckney Street, Suite 700
Madison, WI 53703
608-257-3501

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